



USAG – FS/HAAF Safety Gram

Sustaining, Supporting, and Defending Safety Excellence



SG #15-14

Back to School Safety Tips

Aug 15

Things get a little crazy on the roads during the school year: Buses are everywhere, kids on bikes are hurrying to get to school before the bell rings, harried parents are trying to drop their kids off before work.

It's never more important for drivers to slow down and pay attention than when kids are present – especially before and after school.

If You're Dropping Off

Schools often have very specially drop-off procedures for the school year. Make sure you know them for the safety of all kids. [More children are hit by cars near schools than at any other location](#), according to the National Safe Routes to School program. The following apply to all school zones:

- Don't double park; it blocks visibility for other children and vehicles.
- Don't load or unload children across the street from the school.



Sharing the Road with Young Pedestrians

According to research by the national Safety Council, most of the children who lose their lives in bus-related incidents are 4 to 7 years old, and they're walking. They are hit by the bus, or by a motorist illegally passing a stopped bus. A few precautions go a long way toward keeping children safe:

- Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn, forcing pedestrians to go around you; this could put them in the path of moving traffic.
- In a school zone when flashers are blinking, stop and yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection.
- Always stop for a school patrol officer or crossing guard holding up a stop sign.
- Take extra care to look out for children in schools zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas.
- Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians.
- Always use extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians wherever they may be, no matter who has the right of way.

**Manage The Risk – Protect The Force For additional information contact:
Your Unit Addition Duty Safety Officer (ADSO) or Collateral Duty Safety Person
(CDSP), or USAG Installation Safety Office: Fort Stewart Office @ 912-767-6541;
Hunter Army Airfield Office @ 912-345-4901.**